



**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE REQUESTED  
EXAMINING GROUP 3738**

**PATENT**

Customer No. 22,852

Attorney Docket No. 08442.0002-04000

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:

Joseph C. Cauthen

Application No.: 10/085,040

Filed: March 1, 2002

For: INTERVERTEBRAL DISC  
ANNULUS STENT

)  
)  
) Group Art Unit: 3738  
)  
) Examiner: U. Chattopadhyay  
)  
)  
) MAIL STOP AF  
)  
)

MAIL STOP AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**TRANSMITTAL LETTER**

Enclosed is a reply to the Final Office Action of June 29, 2004. The items checked below are appropriate:

- ☒ Applicant hereby petition for a one-month extension of time to respond to the above Office Action. The fee of \$55.00 for the Extension is enclosed.

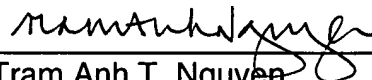
The claims are calculated below:

	Claims Remaining After Amendment		Highest Number Previously Paid	Present Extra	Rate	Additional Fee
Total	42	-	44	0	x \$ 18	\$ 0
Indep.	1	-	3	0	x \$ 86	0
<input type="checkbox"/> First Presentation of Multiple Dep. Claim(s)					+\$290	0
Subtotal						\$ 0.00
Reduction by ½ if small entity						\$ 0.00
TOTAL						\$ 0.00

☒ A fee of \$55.00 to cover Petition for Extension of Time is enclosed.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Dated: October 8, 2004

By:   
Tram Anh T. Nguyen  
Reg. No. 47,257



**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE REQUESTED  
EXAMINING GROUP 3738**

**PATENT**

Customer No. 22,852

Attorney Docket No. 08442.0002-04000

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:

**Joseph C. Cauthen**

Application No.: **10/085,040**

Filed: **March 1, 2002**

For: **INTERVERTEBRAL DISC  
ANNULUS STENT**

)  
)  
) Group Art Unit: 3738  
)  
) Examiner: U. Chattopadhyay  
)  
)  
)  
)  
)

*Corres. and Mail*  
**BOX AF**

**MAIL STOP AF**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL**

In reply to the Final Office Action mailed June 29, 2004, the period for response having been extended to October 29, 2004 by a request for extension of one month and fee payment filed concurrently herewith, and pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.116, Applicant proposes that this application be amended as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims in this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** follow the amendment sections of this paper.